

1 H.921

2 An act relating to alcoholic beverages

3 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

4 * * * Term Length for Members of Board of Liquor and Lottery * * *

5 Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. § 101 is amended to read:

6 § 101. COMPOSITION OF DEPARTMENT; COMMISSIONER OF

7 LIQUOR AND LOTTERY; BOARD OF LIQUOR AND LOTTERY

8 * * *

9 (b)(1) The Board of Liquor and Lottery shall consist of five persons. Not
10 all members of the Board shall belong to the same political party.

11 (2)(A) With the advice and consent of the Senate, the Governor shall
12 appoint the members of the Board for staggered ~~three-year~~ four-year terms.

13 * * *

14 * * * Fourth-Class Licenses; Serving and Other License Limits * * *

15 Sec. 2. 7 V.S.A. § 224 is amended to read:

16 § 224. FOURTH-CLASS LICENSES

17 * * *

18 (b) At each licensed location, a fourth-class licensee may sell by the
19 unopened container or distribute by the glass, with or without charge, alcoholic
20 beverages manufactured by the licensee.

1 (1) A licensee may, for consumption at the licensed premises or
2 location, distribute the following amounts of alcoholic beverages to a retail
3 customer:

4 (A) at a farmer's market location, not more than:

5 (i) two ounces of malt beverages, vinous beverages, or ready-to-
6 drink spirits beverages with a total of eight ounces; and

7 ~~(B)(ii) no more than~~ one-quarter ounce of spirits or fortified wine
8 with a total of one ounce; or

9 (B) at a tasting room and retail shop, not more than:

10 (i) an aggregate total of 16 ounces of malt beverages or hard cider;

11 (ii) an aggregate total of 12 ounces of vinous beverages or ready-
12 to-drink spirits beverages; and

13 (iii) one-quarter ounce of spirits or fortified wine with a total of
14 two ounces.

15 * * *

16 (c)(1) At ~~only one~~ not more than five fourth-class license ~~location~~
17 locations, a licensed manufacturer or rectifier may sell by the unopened
18 container or distribute by the glass, with or without charge, ~~alcoholic~~
19 beverages;

20 (A) malt beverages, vinous beverages, or ready-to-drink spirits
21 beverages produced by ~~no~~ other licensed manufacturers or rectifiers; and

1 with the fee provided in section 204 of this title at least five days prior to the
2 date of the event.

3 * * *

4 * * * Notice Period for Retail Tasting Permits * * *

5 Sec. 5. 7 V.S.A. § 255 is amended to read:

6 § 255. RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE TASTING PERMITS

7 (a) The Division of Liquor Control may grant a licensee a permit to
8 conduct an alcoholic beverage tasting event as provided in subsection (b) of
9 this section if:

10 (1) the licensee has submitted a written application in a form required by
11 the Commissioner and paid the fee provided in section 204 of this title at least
12 ~~five days~~ one business day prior to the date of the alcoholic beverage tasting
13 event; and

14 * * *

15 * * * Distribution by Malt Beverage Manufacturers; 2028 Sunset * * *

16 Sec. 6. 7 V.S.A. § 271 is amended to read:

17 § 271. MANUFACTURER'S OR RECTIFIER'S LICENSE

18 * * *

19 (d)(1) The Board of Liquor and Lottery may grant to a licensed
20 manufacturer or rectifier a first-class license or a third-class license, or both,
21 permitting the licensee to sell alcoholic beverages to the public at an

1 establishment located at the manufacturer's or rectifier's licensed facility,
2 provided the manufacturer or rectifier owns or has direct control over that
3 establishment.

4 (2) A licensed manufacturer of malt beverages or vinous beverages may
5 operate up to two licensed establishments pursuant to this subsection that are
6 located at the licensed manufacturing facility or on property that is owned by
7 the licensee and is contiguous with the parcel of land on which the licensed
8 manufacturing facility is located, provided the manufacturer owns or has direct
9 control over both establishments.

10 * * *

11 (g) A licensed manufacturer of malt beverages may distribute an annual
12 total of not more than 3,000 barrels of the manufacturer's malt beverages
13 directly to holders of first- or second-class licenses. A licensed manufacturer
14 of malt beverages shall retain copies of records of distribution and sales made
15 pursuant to this subsection. Annually, on or before January 15, a licensed
16 manufacturer shall report to the Division in a manner and form required by the
17 Commissioner the total amount of malt beverages distributed pursuant to this
18 subsection during the preceding 12 months.

19 Sec. 7. [Deleted.]

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

~~***~~

~~(e) An art gallery, retail establishment, public library, or museum may be issued not more than 12 special venue serving permits in a calendar year.~~

~~(f) As used in this section, “retail establishment” does not include a Vermont agency liquor store or a cannabis establishment as that term is defined in section 861 of this title. [Deleted.]~~

~~Sec. 4. 7 V.S.A. § 2 is amended to read:~~

~~§ 2. DEFINITIONS~~

~~As used in this title:~~

~~***~~

~~(38) “Special venue serving permit” means a permit granted by the Division of Liquor Control permitting an art gallery, retail establishment, public library, or museum to conduct an event at which malt or vinous beverages, or both, are served by the glass to the public. As used in this section, “art gallery” means a fixed establishment whose primary purpose is to exhibit or offer for sale works of art; “public library” has the same meaning as in 22 V.S.A. § 101; and “museum” has the same meaning as in 27 V.S.A. § 1151. As used in this section, “retail establishment” does not include a Vermont agency liquor store or a cannabis establishment as that term is defined in section 861 of this title.~~

~~***~~

1 [Deleted.]

2 Sec. 10. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 156, Sec. 11 is amended to read:

3 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES

4 (a) This section and Sec. 5 shall take effect on passage.

5 (b) ~~Secs. 3 and 4 shall take effect on July 1, 2026.~~ [Deleted.]

6 (c) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

7 * * * Caterer's License * * *

8 Sec. 11. 7 V.S.A. § 2 is amended to read:

9 § 2. DEFINITIONS

10 As used in this title:

11 * * *

12 (5) "Caterer's license" means a license issued by the Board of Liquor
13 and Lottery authorizing the holder of a first-class license or first- and third-
14 class licenses to serve alcoholic beverages at a function ~~located on premises~~
15 ~~other than those occupied by a first-, first- and third-, or second-class licensee~~
16 ~~to sell alcoholic beverages pursuant to section 241 of this title.~~

17 * * *

18 Sec. 12. 7 V.S.A. § 241 is amended to read:

19 § 241. CATERER'S LICENSE; COMMERCIAL CATERING LICENSE

20 (a) The Board of Liquor and Lottery may issue a caterer's license or a
21 commercial catering license to a person who holds a first-class license or first-

1 and third-class licenses. The holder of a caterer's license is authorized to serve
2 alcoholic beverages at a function located on premises other than those
3 occupied by another first-, first- and third-, or second-class licensee to sell
4 alcoholic beverages. The holder of a caterer's license may host not more than
5 five functions per calendar year located on the license holder's own first-, first-
6 and third-, or second-class licensed premises.

7 * * *

8 * * * Effective Dates * * *

9 Sec. 13. EFFECTIVE DATES

10 (a) This section and Secs. 9 through 12 shall take effect on passage.

11 (b) [Deleted.]

12 (c) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2026.